

gum, having a molecular weight of 0.5 kD to 1,000 kD, the polysaccharide being present in the nutritional composition only in an amount to cause an increase in the viscosity of the nutritional composition which is less than 10mPa.s.

--10. (new) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the polysaccharide is selected from dextrans having a molecular weight of 20 kD to 2,000 kD.

--11. (new) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the nutritional composition is a complete food.

--12. (new) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the nutritional composition is a food supplement.

--13. (new) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the uptake reduction occurs at the tight junctions of the intestinal wall.

--14. (new) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said mammal suffers from allergies, allergic reactions, and inflammatory processes, which can arise under emotional and physical stress, ischaemia, reperfusion damage during and after operations, and after radiation treatment and/or chemotherapy of cancer patients.

--15. (new) A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the nutritional composition is administered in a quantity such that the concentration of polysaccharide in the intestine is 0.1 to 6g/l.

--16. (new) A nutritional composition which contains dextrans having a molecular weight of 8 kD to 40,000 kD, with the proviso that the rise in the viscosity of the nutritional composition caused by the dextrans is less than 10 mPa.s, and wherein the dextrans are contained in the composition in an amount so that the concentration of the dextran in the composition is of from 1 to 6 g/l.--

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concluded*

R E M A R K S

This application has been amended in a manner that is believed to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

In the outstanding Official Action, claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 USC §101 for allegedly reciting a "use", without setting forth any steps involved in a process. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-8 have been canceled and new claims 9-16 have been added. Claims 9-15 are directed to a method of reducing the uptake of high molecular weight substances, allergens and